

REMARKS

Claims 24 and 27-49 are pending in this application. By this Amendment, claims 1-23, 25 and 26 are cancelled without prejudice to or disclaimer of the subject matter contained therein, claim 24 has been amended and claims 27-49 have been added. Reconsideration of the application is requested.

Claims 1-5 and 8-10 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,223,029 issued to Stenman et al. (hereinafter "Stenman"); claims 15-23 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(e) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,522,421 issued to Chapman et al. (hereinafter "Chapman"); claims 6-7, 12-13 and 14 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Stenman in view of Chapman; claim 11 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Stenman in view of Chapman and further in view of International Patent Publication WO 94/26059; and claims 24-26 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) over Stenman in view of Chapman. The rejections of claims 1-23, 25 and 26 have been rendered moot by the cancellation of these claims. However, the rejection of claim 24 is traversed for at least the following reasons.

Page 9 of the Office Action states that Chapman fails to disclose the step of executing printing of the print data from the cellular phone. The Office Action further states that col. 7, lines 1-24 and col. 15, lines 20-21 of Stenman discloses this feature and that it would have been obvious to one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention to combine the teachings of Stenman and Chapman to provide security to the user.

However, Applicants submit that neither of the references explicitly or impliedly suggest and/or provide any motivation to one of ordinary skill in the art to incorporate the teachings of the other reference to disclose the combination of features recited in Applicant's claim 24. MPEP §2143.01 states that "To support the conclusion that the claimed invention is directed to obvious subject matter, either the references must expressly or impliedly suggest

the claimed invention or the examiner must present a convincing line of reasoning as to why the artisan would have found the claimed invention to have been obvious in light of the teachings of the references. Further, "The mere fact that references can be combined or modified does not render the resultant combination obvious unless the prior art also suggests the desirability of the combination" (pg. 21-126 of MPEP Rev. 1, Feb, 2003).

Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's assertion that it would have been obvious to incorporate the teachings of Stenman and Chapman to provide security to the user does not sufficiently establish a prima facie case of obviousness as required by the MPEP because Stenman discloses a system enabling a mobile station to provide combined mobile telephony and remote control terminal functions (col. 3, lines 22-24), while Chapman is directed to digital printing systems and provides a method of automatically returning the status and error information from a printer using email (col. 3, lines 5-7). More particularly, in Chapman the email message sent to the user includes information such as finishing options requested and used, pages printed, job completion or cancellation status (col. 3, lines 45-47) and the email message is provided to keep the user informed about what was printed. In view of the forgoing, Applicants submit that a person with ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would not be motivated to combine the teachings of the two references to provide a control method of controlling an image forming device with all the features recited in claim 24.

Further, assuming that one of ordinary skill in the art at the time of the invention would have had motivation to combine the teachings of Stenman and Chapman, Applicants submit that the combination of Stenman and Chapman fails to disclose or suggest a control method of controlling an image forming device, including at least receiving image information from an external device, storing the image information in a memory, receiving an instruction to print the image information from a cellular phone and executing printing of the image information in accordance with the instruction, as recited in claim 24. Applicants submit that in both

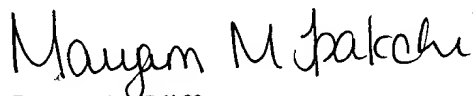
Chapman and Stenman, the status of the printer when the instruction is sent to the printer is unknown.

For at least the reasons discussed above, Applicants respectfully submit that the combination of Chapman and Stenman fails to disclose all the features of Applicants' claim 24 as well as all the features of Applicants' claims 27-37, which depend therefrom. Accordingly, because it would not have been obvious to combine the references to arrive at the claimed invention, it is requested that the rejection be withdrawn.

In view of the foregoing, it is respectfully submitted that this application is in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration and prompt allowance of claims 24 and 27-49 are earnestly solicited.

Should the Examiner believe that anything further would be desirable in order to place this application in even better condition for allowance, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the telephone number set forth below.

Respectfully submitted,



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JAO:MMI/ccs

Attachment:
Petition for Extension of Time

Date: April 6, 2004

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